I. *An Extract of a Letter from Mr.* Robert Vans *of* Kilkenny *in* Ireland. *Dated* Nov. 15. 1695. *to Mr.* Henry Million.

WE have had of late, in the County of *Limerick*, and *Tipperary*, Showers of a ſort of Matter like Butter or Greaſe: If one rub it upon ones Hand it will melt, but lay it by the Fire, and it dries and grows hard, having a very ſtinking Smell. And this laſt Night ſome fell at this place, which I did ſee my ſelf this Morning. It is gathered into Pots and other Veſſels, by ſome of the Inhabitants of this Place.

Extract from the Biſhop of Cloyne's *Letter, near* Youghall, April 2*d.* 1696.

SIR,

I Think my ſelf obliged by the Duty I owe your ſelf and the *Royal Society*, to furniſh ſuch Accounts of Natural Hiſtory, as I ſuppoſe are not common. Accordingly having very diligently inquired concerning a very odd *Phænomenon*, which was obſerved in many Parts of *Munſter* and *Leinſter*, the beſt Account I can Collect thereof, is as follows: For a good part of laſt Winter and Spring, there fell in ſeveral places, a kind of thick Dew, which the Country People called *Butter*, from the Conſiſtency and Colour of it, being ſoft, clammy, and of a dark Yellow; it fell always in the Night, and chiefly in Mooriſh low Grounds, on the

the top of the Graſs, and often on the thatch of Cabbins: 'twas ſeldom obſerv'd in the ſame Places twice; it commonly lay on the Earth for near a Fortnight without changing its Colour, but then dryed and turn'd black. Cattle fed in the Fields where it lay indifferently, as in other Fields. It fell in lumps, often as big as the end of ones Finger, very thin and ſcatteringly; it had a ſtrong ill Scent, ſomewhat like the ſmell of Church-yards or Graves: And indeed we had during moſt of that Seaſon very ſtinking Fogs, ſome Sediment of which might poſſibly occaſion this ſtinking Dew, tho' I will by no means pretend to offer that a reaſon of it: I cannot find that it was kept long, or that it bred any Worms or Inſects; yet the ſuperſtitious Country People, who had Scal'd or Sore Heads, rub'd them with this Subſtance, and ſaid, *it healed them.*

I am likewiſe inform'd of a Perſon in my Neighbourhood, who had a regular Epileptick Fit, at a certain Hour every Day; I have not yet ſeen or diſcourſed with him, but when I am furniſhed with a juſt and faithful Account of this Caſe, I will not fail to Communicate it.